

Human Development and Family Science



**A degree preparing
undergraduates with
an interdisciplinary
perspective for careers
dedicated to improving
the lives of children,
youth, and families**

At A Glance

Degree Type: Bachelor of Arts in Education (B.A.Ed.)

Program Length: 48 credit hours

Application Deadlines: Typically, HDFS accepts applications during the spring and fall semesters. For exact dates, visit ed.unc.edu/hdfs.

The Human Development and Family Science (HDFS) program, a pre-professional major for undergraduates, provides students with essential knowledge and skills to improve the lives of children, youth and families across a variety of contexts and cultures — incorporating a broad interdisciplinary perspective that honors psychological, sociological, economic, medical, education, cultural, and biological experiences.

Graduates of the program often pursue careers and graduate programs related to the helping professions at the intersection of education, nonprofits, allied and public health, social services, health services, child life, counseling services, policy, and business services — and beyond.

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In the HDFS program — which positions graduates for future endeavors dedicated to the growth of children, families, and communities — students gain:

- **Deep understanding** of how children develop in the context of families, schools, and communities from faculty members recognized as leaders in their respective fields;
- A **foundation in evidence-based practices** that provides real-world perspective, ensuring graduates leave prepared to engage meaningfully with their communities;
- **Opportunities to combine theory and practice** through service-learning opportunities in which students work with helping professionals;
- A **semester-long internship** in which they gain invaluable real-life experience in potential career settings that include schools, health-care settings, disability services, research, nonprofit, and human service organizations, and more.



Tatiana Aguilar '22
Project Imhotep Intern
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

“HDFS merges research, health, education, and human services, which are all aspects I wanted out of a program. This degree can help take me anywhere I want to go in the future.”

How will *you* propel the world?

To learn more about the Human Development and Family Science program or to learn more about applying, email ed@unc.edu.

Visit ed.unc.edu/hdfs

PROPEL
the WORLD